



Town of Arlington Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws,
Chapter 39, Section 23B, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the:

Finance Committee

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

7:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Conducted by Remote Participation - Zoom Meeting

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. 7:30 PM Virtual Open Meeting protocol and roll call
2. 7:40 PM Chair's Comments:
 1. Call for budgets
 2. Shaileen Pokress on leave
3. 7:45 PM Minutes for approval
4. 7:50 PM Zero Waste Committee
5. 8:30 PM Police and Fire Budgets
6. 9:00 PM Additional Budgets
7. 9:20 PM Alan Jones Report on 6 Month Actual Finance Committee Expenses
8. 9:30 PM Chair's comments on scheduling budgets using Microsoft 365
9. 9:40 PM New Business
10. 10:00 PM Adjourn

Charlie Foscett is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Finance Committee Meeting

Time: February 10, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/joining/register/tJwofumgpzItG9eKIPf-kigDj22eZfQ5YxNI>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting

Members of the public are asked to send written comments to ediggins@town.arlington.ma.us

Documents regarding agenda items will be made available via the Town's website.

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

By Charlie Foscett, Chairman Finance Committee



The Zero Waste Arlington (ZWA) committee has been working to maintain as much normalcy as possible during the pandemic. While we were forced to suspend a long-planned Spring, Summer, Fall 2020 campaign directed at restaurants in Arlington called "No Plastic Please", we have been meeting virtually, monthly, (often using a personal Zoom account) since the late Spring 2020. The mode of virtual meetings has brought a positive spin for us, in that our meeting attendance has expanded measurably. Virtual meetings have also released us from the constraint of available Town conference rooms, along with the typical after-dinner 7:30pm meeting time. Many ZWA members have families with young kids, and meeting times and travel are not insignificant considerations with respect to meeting attendance.

Our \$3000 annual stipend is spent directly on products and services that allow us to effectively conduct our core efforts of outreach and education aimed at residents and businesses of Arlington promoting diversion of trash from Municipal Solid Waste to recycling. Increasingly, we also promote strategies to Reduce and Reuse, along with Recycle. In a typical year, the array of expenditures might include: 1) creating and/or updating printed materials with outside graphic design assistance; 2) design and procurement of branded "infrastructure" for public events such as Town Day, to include banners, posters, canopy tent; 3) Registration fees for various events; 4) rental of a documentary film to be shown at an indoor event, and 5) purchase of branded tee shirts for ZWA volunteers.

ZWA has determined that in order to properly fulfill its mission of outreach and education, and to optimize the infrastructure for its monthly public meetings, an account with a provider such as Zoom is necessary. And, we plan to continue to offer a virtual attendance option once the pandemic ebbs for both Members and the public, since virtual participation has proven to be a popular option.

Further, ZWA will launch a quarterly webinar series in March 2021 entitled "Earth to Arlington: Let's Talk Trash," which we feel will further increase levels of engagement with Arlington residents about solid waste issues (plastics, in particular), with a focus on the "reduce" and "reuse" legs of the 3 Rs we are all familiar with. For this, a webinar-type account is needed. We've researched several possible platforms, but have come back to Zoom Webinar as the best option for us. The current annual fee for such an account is \$400, and therefore we propose that ZWA's annual budget be increased from \$3000 to \$3500. It should also be understood that ZWA would happily share access to this Zoom Webinar account with fellow Town committees that would benefit from having access to such a platform.